

CLAIMS

1. A system for governing management of object persistence in a hosting environment, comprising:
 - a host system in communication with a data repository;
 - a plurality of access intent policies stored in said data repository, said access intent policies defining rules operable for specifying data access and data consistency semantics compatible with variant target back end systems associated with said host system, wherein client systems receive application hosting services from said host system;
 - wherein said access intent policies include attributes comprising:
 - access type attributes;
 - ReadAhead attributes;
 - collection access attributes; and
 - pessimisticUpdateHint attributes; and
 - a link to at least one of said client systems;
 - wherein said host system provides access to said plurality of access intent policies to said at least one of said client systems over a communications link.
2. The system of claim 1, further comprising a Java 2 Enterprise Edition environment associated with said host system, wherein said host system provides access to said plurality of access intent policies to said at least one of said client systems via said Java 2 Enterprise Edition environment.
3. The system of claim 2, wherein said access type attributes include an optimisticRead attribute and a pessimisticRead attribute operable for specifying whether an update method will be driven on a persistent object.

4. The system of claim 3, wherein said access type attributes further include an optimisticUpdate attribute and a pessimisticUpdate attribute operable for specifying whether an update method will be driven on a persistent object.
5. The system of claim 2, wherein said readAhead attribute specifies which related object in a container-managed relationship will be read when a multi-object finder is driven.
6. The system of claim 2, wherein said collection access attribute specifies whether an application will access a persistent object returned by a multi-object finder serially or randomly.
7. The system of claim 6, wherein said persistent object is an enterprise Java bean.
8. The system of claim 6, wherein said collection access attribute is used to implement a cursor management scheme.
9. The system of claim 2, wherein said pessimisticUpdateHint attribute further comprises a noCollision element operable for specifying that an application will have no row collisions.
10. The system of claim 2, wherein said pessimisticUpdateHint attribute further comprises an exclusive element operable for specifying that an application requires exclusive access to a database row.
11. The system of claim 2, wherein said pessimisticUpdateHint attribute further comprises a promote element operable for specifying whether a persistent object has read only access with an option to update said persistent object if necessary.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of said variant target back end systems employs a relational database.

13. The system of claim 1, wherein said at least one of said client systems is a server operated by a web developer, said web developer building and managing a web-based application via at least one of said plurality of access intent policies.

14. A method for governing management of object persistence in an application hosting environment via an access intent policy system, comprising:

 assigning an access intent policy to a method, said access intent policy including attributes comprising:

 an access types;
 a pessimisticUpdateHint attribute;
 a collection access attribute; and
 a readAhead attribute;

 associating a target back end system with said method;

 generating code specific to said target back end system based upon assigned access intent policy;

 invoking said method for a transaction; and

 implementing persistence management via said code.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein said application hosting environment is a Java 2 Enterprise Edition architecture.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said access intent policy is predefined based upon a selected group of said attributes.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein said access intent policy is customized by selecting unique combinations of said attributes.

18. A storage medium comprising machine-readable computer program code for governing management of object persistence in a hosting environment, said storage medium including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method, comprising:

 assigning an access intent policy to a method, said access intent policy including attributes comprising:

 an access types;
 a pessimisticUpdateHint attribute;
 a collection access attribute; and
 a readAhead attribute;

 associating a target back end system with said method;

 generating code specific to said target back end system based upon assigned access intent policy;

 invoking said method for a transaction; and

 implementing persistence management via said code.

19. The storage medium of claim 18 wherein said application hosting environment is a Java 2 Enterprise Edition architecture; wherein said application hosting environment provides Java 2 Enterprise Edition services to a client system.

20. The storage medium of claim 19, wherein said access intent policy is predefined based upon a selected group of said attributes.

21. The storage medium of claim 19, wherein said access intent policy is customized by selecting unique combinations of said attributes.